

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 01620 030514Z  
ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-12 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01  
CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00  
EB-08 EPA-01 SOE-02 DOE-11 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01  
INR-10 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05  
NSF-01 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 AF-10 ARA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 /179 W  
-----099061 030517Z /11

P 030429Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2581

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 1620

FROM USDEL ANTARCTIC

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PLOS  
SUBJECT: LOS CORRIDOA TALK AT ANTARCTIC SPECIAL CONSULTATIVE  
MEETING

1. ZEGERS (CHILE) EXPRESSED GREAT CONCERN THAT SEVERAL  
WEEKS IN GENEVA WOULD BE LOST TO PROCEDURAL WRANGLING.  
HE FELT IT ESSENTIAL TO PROVIDE A SPECIAL ROLE FOR THE  
CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES II AND III. TO ALLAY AFRICAN  
CONCERNS, NJENGA WOULD REPLACE AMERASINGHE AS PRESIDENT  
AND AN ASIAN, HE SUGGESTED KOH, SHOULD REPLACE ENGO IN  
COMMITTEE I.

2. JERRY BRENNAN (AUSTRALIAN) ON THE OTHER HAND SAID ONE  
COULD NOT ACCEPT A MAJOR SPOKESMAN FOR LL/GDS IN A  
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN OR PRESIDENCY ROLE. HE SUGGESTED  
AGUILLAR FOR THE PRESIDENCY, NJENGA FOR COMMITTEE II.  
THIS, HE STATED, WOULD PROVIDE AN EXCUSE FOR REPLACING  
ENGO IN COMMITTEE I. HE SUGGESTED THE POSSIBILITY OF  
JAGOTA REPLACING ENGO. HE ALSO REFERRED TO A RECENT  
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CABLE INDICATING THAT THE LATINS WERE PREPARED TO DEAL  
ON RETAINING AMERASINGHE, BUT IMPLIED THAT THEIR  
PRICE WOULD BE TOO HIGH.

3. KLESTOV (USSR) WAS GREATLY DISTURBED ABOUT THE  
PROCEDURAL MESS RESULTING FROM THE NEW YORK MEETING  
WHICH HE BELIEVED COULD WELL RESULT IN A 3 TO 4 WEEK

PROCEDURAL WRANGLE IN GENEVA. KLESTOV HAS UNDERTAKEN WIDE-RANGING SOUNDINGS WITHIN U.S. DELEGATION ON LIKELY CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON SEABED MINING.

4. WITEK (POLAND) EXPRESSED SIMILAR CONCERN. HE CITED THE DARMAN ARTICLES BEING PARTICULARLY DESTRUCTIVE. THE TERRITORIALIST, HE BELIEVED, NOW SEE A LACK OF COMMITMENT BY THE U.S. TO ACHIEVING A TREATY. THEY, THEREFORE, ARE MAKING A RENEWED EFFORT TO FIND DEVICES TO PRECLUDE AGREEMENT.

5. KEITH BRENNAN (AUSTRALIA) SERVED AS CHAIRMAN OF THE COASTAL STATE SUBCOMMITTEE ON PROCEDURES. THE PRIMARY CONCERN IN THOSE MEETINGS WAS WHO WOULD APPOINT THE CHAIRMAN OF THE VARIOUS WORKING GROUPS THAT WOULD BE ESTABLISHED. RELATED TO THAT WAS THE QUESTION OF HOW THE ICNT WOULD BE REVISED WITH MOST BELIEVING THAT IT SHOULD ONLY BE CHANGED IN COMMITTEES II OR III WITH THE CONCURRENCE OF THE CHAIRMAN OF EACH RESPECTIVE COMMITTEE. HE SAID THAT COMMITTEE I WAS DIFFERENT THAN TRADITIONAL LOS ISSUES WHICH WOULD JUSTIFY A DIFFERENT APPROACH. HOWEVER, HE ADDED, THAT EVEN IF ENGO WAS GIVEN A SIMILAR ROLE BRENNAN BELIEVED HE WOULD NOT STRAY AS HE HAD LAST SESSION. AUSTRALIA SUPPORTED THIS APPROACH PRESUMABLY BECAUSE OF THEIR CONCERN ABOUT SHELF DELIMITATION. WHEN THIS PROCEDURAL APPROACH WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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BROUGHT TO THE PLENARY OF THE COASTAL STATE GROUP, CASTENADA MADE A "DEVASTATING INTERVENTION". CASTENADA POINTED OUT THAT ENGO AND YANKOV WERE GDS AND AMERASINGHE WAS SUPPORTIVE OF LLGDS CONCERNS. THEREFORE, A COLLEGIAL SYSTEM OPERATING BY CONSENSUS WAS ESSENTIAL WITH AGUILLAR RETAINING VETO POWER.  
ALSTON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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